

Omasal Sampling Techniques for Studying Digestion in the Rumen

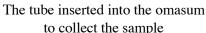


Glen Broderick, Wendy Radloff, Santiago Reynal, Andre Brito, Jesus Olmos U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center, USDA-ARS, Madison, Wisconsin

A rumen cannulated cow eating a diet formulated specifically for the experiment

INTRODUCTION

The digesta leaving the rumen must be analyzed to determine how much of the feed has been digested in the cow's rumen. The omasal sampling method can be used to collect the digesta leaving the rumen. Although the cows must have rumen cannulas, they are otherwise normal and the sampling does not disturb them.





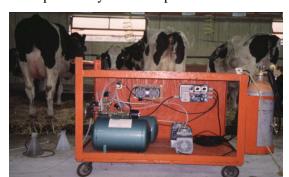


Collecting a sample from the omasum through the rumen cannula



Pouring an omasal sample in to a collection container





The system that provides alternating vacuum and pressure to obtain the omasal sample



Infusion of labeling markers into the rumen.

Samples taken from the omasum will be later analyzed for these markers